

THE ALMA RECORD.

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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 9, 1918

WHOLE NUMBER 2042

BODIES OF TWO BABIES FOUND

Had Been Buried After Being Wrapped in a Suit of Men's Underwear

OFFICIALS KNOW THE PARTIES

Confession Said to Have Been Obtained by Vibber and Murphy—Action Expected Soon.

Another crime was brought to light in this city last week, which bids fair to offer a sensation to the people of Alma very soon. It came about through the discovery of the bodies of two babies in the southern part of the city Thursday afternoon, which were turned up in an alley in Holiday Park sub-division by a plow.

Chief of Police Oscar Vibber was immediately notified of the finding of the bodies and shortly after Deputy Murphy, who was in the city at the time joined in with Vibber on the case.

The bodies of the two children, evidently twins, were wrapped up in a suit of men's underwear, furnishing a slight clue for the officers to work on.

Starting from this the two officers gradually gathered up evidence, which came rapidly once they had started on the case, and at noon Saturday the officers had a confession in regard to the matter, from at least one of those vitally concerned.

The matter was taken up with Ora L. Smith, prosecuting attorney of Gratiot county, and Saturday night he came to Alma from Ithaca and went into the affair with Vibber.

It is certain that criminal proceedings will be started in the matter, but pending the filing of charges, the names of those against whom they will be made are being held up by the officers, and not the slightest inkling of the names of those concerned in the affair has so far reached the public ear. Prosecutor O. L. Smith is being kept busy almost day and night at the present time with the Eichorn murder case, now being fought out in circuit court, has so far been unable to devote much time to this new case, warrants are expected, however, to be issued at almost any time, which will very probably charge criminal abortion.

GROUND GLASS

Another Rumor of Ground Glass Has Been Found This Week.

William Rogers, justice of the peace, is in possession of several pounds of tapioca which it is believed may contain ground glass, and a thorough investigation in regard to it will be made, it is said.

The tapioca is the supply which a grocery at Forest Hill had a few days ago. Some of it was sold to Mrs. Strouse of that place and in making a pudding she discovered some foreign substance in the tapioca. On investigation the portion of tapioca which she had left Mrs. Strouse found some fine particles in a crystalline form, and which she could not account for, other than it might be ground glass.

The attention of Mr. Rogers was called to the matter and he has the entire supply of the tapioca which the grocery had. Under microscopic investigation in his office Wednesday morning, crystals were found, but whether or not they will prove to be ground glass is still to be determined.

It is the intention of Mr. Rogers to have a chemical analysis made with a view of finding if the fine crystals in the tapioca are ground glass. If it is found that ground glass is present the matter will be referred to the department of justice at once. E. M. Wood, head of the local branch of the American Protective League, is aiding Mr. Rogers in this work.

DICKIE IS SPEAKER

It has been announced that Samuel Dickie, president of Albion college, has been secured as the speaker at the annual Alma high school commencement, which will be held Thursday evening, June 20.

President Dickie is a forceful speaker and can be depended upon to have a good message for the graduates of the local high school. He is regarded as one of the best speakers in the country.

Contracts have been signed for the appearance of Ringling Bros. circus in this city July 18th. It has been several years since this world's largest circus has appeared in Alma, and at that time it drew a crowd that was estimated at about 18,000 people. Alma has always been noted as a circus town and is sure to greet this circus with another great crowd this year.

HOWE ATTRACTION

Lyman Howe Traveling Festival for Red Cross Benefit.

The Lyman Howe Traveling Festival will be brought to this city Friday and Saturday, May 24 and 25 for a Red Cross benefit by the Young Men's class of the Methodist Episcopal church.

The attractions will be held at the church which is being fitted up in a proper manner to take care of them. State Fire Inspector Lane was in the city a few days ago and has announced that the church will be a suitable place for the attractions.

The Lyman Howe pictures are known all over the country as being among the best, and are highly recommended by many people here who have seen them. There will be shows both Friday and Saturday evenings, and also a matinee on Saturday afternoon.

The Young Men's class which is bringing this attraction here, will turn over everything over expenses to the Red Cross of Alma.

GRATIOT COUNTY BOY IN ARMY WRITES

Olen G. Ferris Tells of His Trip South and Early Experiences in Army.

Olen G. Ferris of Sumner township who was recently drafted, has written a most interesting letter regarding his experiences since he has become a member of the national army. A part of the letter tells of the trip south to Camp Gordon, Ga. It was written to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Ferris, and brother of Sumner.

Camp Gordon, Ga., Apr. 28. Dear Folks at Home:—

My Trip

Leaving Camp Custer with only a few hours' notice and nothing certain until we were requested to pack our sacks and fall in line, we were—500 of us—marched to the depot, where a special train of fourteen passenger coaches, two cook coaches and the baggage awaited us. We were divided off equally and marched to our coach—a guard placed at each end of it—and we were instructed that this car was to be our home for the entire journey, and that we would be held responsible for its cleanliness and care. Leaving camp at 2 p. m. Wednesday with band playing and many good-byes and cheers from both sides, we started on a successful and record trip, not knowing for certain where we were going as yet.

The train made fine time as we had a clear track and no stops except for water, and much of that we took on the run. We were supplied with flags and being a special train made us conspicuous to all civilians of country towns and cities, who all stopped work and looked, waved hands and handkerchiefs and cheered us. Believe me, we were no dead bunch. We always waved our hands and flags and shouted back at the gathering crowds.

It was no small sight to see 14 carloads of boys dressed in khaki and sticking half way out of the windows and shouting like caged animals. After while the crowds began to grow larger; I guess they must have telegraphed ahead. We were always on the lookout for towns. Our first stop was outside of Detroit where a large crowd was gathered and the Red Cross furnished us with candy and cigarettes. We passed through Toledo and many other towns before night. Our mess was given us in our seats and it was a mess and no mistake. We washed our dishes where we washed our hands and faces and slept in the seats, on the floor or standing up as desired.

We came into Cincinnati about four o'clock the next morning and having slept in our clothes were all dressed ready to see the city, but it was rather dark to see it. We were sure we were able to see that it was a large city, from seeing trains running over and under us and monstrous buildings on all sides.

Crossed the line into Covington, Ky., and stopped here for breakfast and exercise. Made a stop of two hours and a half, from 6 to 8:30. Our exercise was to form in squads and march down town. I guess the whole town was awake—they should have been from the noise and commotion we made. Autos and soldiers so thick that street cars could scarcely run. Everybody was cheering us from porches, lawns, street cars, autos and buggies. Flags flying—some disturbance, I say! Here is where we saw our pretty girls, and believe me, they sure got kidded for once in their lives by the soldiers. But they were alive and ready with an answer. Covington is a wet town with a saloon on about every corner.

(Continued on page seven)

DEFENSE MAY START TODAY

Prosecution Expected to Finish Its List of Witnesses Before the Day is Over.

FINISH IS NOT YET IN SIGHT

Expected That it Will Take Another Week Before Eichorn Case Gets to Jury.

At noon today the prosecution was not through with its side of the Albert Eichorn murder case in circuit court at Ithaca, but there was strong indication that before night the prosecution would rest its case and give the defense a chance to take up its line of defense, which may take any one of several lines.

At the present time, naturally, with a load of evidence in, which points strongly to Albert Eichorn, the case against him looks black, but the defense has every chance to come back in presenting its side of the case and tear down the structure of evidence which has been built through the clever work of Prosecutor Smith and Kelly Searl in handling the numerous witnesses for the state.

David Beaudry, the Alma man, who secured the confession from Mrs. Gilson and her daughter, has been the center of attraction during the past week on the stand. Mrs. Gilson and her daughter were on the stand nearly a week ago. Beaudry has been on the stand for the past two days and has been undergoing a heavy siege of questioning by the attorneys.

One thing is certain and that is if the defense takes the line that Eichorn was not in Alma on the night of the murder, which is hardly expected now, it must explain away the testimony of several witnesses that he was in Alma that night. Eichorn is known to have made this claim.

It is rumored that the defense will claim a conspiracy against Eichorn, on the part of David Beaudry and Mrs. Gilson. The report is current that the defense can produce a witness, who claims that he was working in the basement at the Gilson home, where the conversation in regard to the matter was hatched up between Mrs. Gilson and Beaudry.

Whether or not there is anything to the rumor can only be told as the case develops, as the defense is keeping everything under cover which pertains to its side of the case, until it is ready to spring it in court.

The case, including the time taken in securing a jury, has been in progress since the middle of April and there is apparently little chance of the case getting to the jury before the middle of this month. The defense is believed to have a long list of witnesses to put on the stand, and this will be followed by the rebuttal arguments of the attorneys, making little likelihood of the case getting to the jury before that time.

GOOD WATER

Pure Drinking Water in Alma Mains By December 1 is Plan

Mayor Francis King did a good piece of legislating when the proposition was recently put through the council to continue to work on the wells in the eastern part of Alma, and as soon as possible to furnish the city with pure drinking water.

Contracts for the sinking of the wells and for the pumps have been let, and the work of sinking the wells will be started within the next few days; it is expected. They will be sunk on the plot of ground on the north side of Superior street, opposite the Union school.

The present plan calls for four or five large wells, which will furnish at least two thousand gallons of water per minute, and the pumps which have been ordered are for two which will pump this amount of water, and one of a smaller capacity.

It is expected that the wells will be sunk and the water flowing in the water mains here before December 1. It will be necessary to treat the mains with a solution of chlorine to purify the mains, before the water is fit for use, once the wells are able to furnish a sufficient supply for the city.

Eventually there will be a city pumping station located near the wells in which the pumps will be located. The cost of the work will run into the thousands of dollars, the contract for the sinking of the wells being a big one, but it is understood that the contractor must get results.

STOLE BEANS

Two Young Men Stole Beans in Sumner and Sold Them in St. Louis.

It is alleged that William Carl and Charles Carl, living west of this city, stole \$43.80 worth of beans from the farm of William Gee in Sumner township one night last week, and that on the following morning they disposed of them in St. Louis.

When the discovery of the theft was made Mr. Gee called for Deputy Arthur Murphy, who together with W. Hutchinson of Elwell, finally located the beans in St. Louis, where they had been sold. The Carl lads were arrested there and taken before Justice Newell Smith. They waived examination and their hearing was set for May 15.

ALMA YOUNG MEN GET COMMISSIONS

Three Alma Boys and Several College Lads Given Commissions at Camp

Seven Alma and Alma college men, who were in the third officers' training camp which closed at Camp Custer, Battle Creek, April 19, have been awarded commissions as second lieutenants, as a result of their endeavors.

Four of the men, possibly five, can be claimed as Alma college men, of those who have qualified for commissions, these being Edward G. Johnston of Yale, a graduate of Alma college last June and former athlete; Leland Fitch, college athlete for three years; Alfred Papworth of Howell, graduate of Alma in 1916; Forrest H. Martelle of DeTour, Alma college student, and possibly William C. Searle of Ithaca, who attended Alma college for two years. The latter is the son of former circuit judge, Kel-Searl.

Hugh J. Bartley, Frank L. Garver, Link and Van G. Westley are the Alma men who received commissions from this training camp.

The record of Alma and Alma college men so far who have gone into the various training camps in the effort to secure commissions has been a good one. Every Alma or Alma college man so far who have gone into the various training camps, in the effort to secure commissions is a good one. Every Alma or Alma college man who set out to get a commission in this way has been successful in his endeavors with one lone exception.

KAZOO FRIDAY

Important M. I. A. A. Battle Between Leaders for Collegiate Title.

Alma's green baseball team will mix affairs with the Kalamazoo college nine on Davis field Friday afternoon in an argument which bids fair to have a strong bearing on the Michigan Intercollegiate championship for 1918, as these two teams are now tied up for the leadership of the association.

Two weeks ago at Kalamazoo Alma won a hard fought game from the Celery City nine by a score of 6 to 4 in a twelve inning battle, and this indicates that Alma will not find the going very easy in the forthcoming game with the orange and black. It is expected that Coach Young of Kalamazoo will send Armstrong to the mound to oppose the Alma team.

Coach Helmer is expecting still better work from his team this week in the Kalamazoo game and with Boyne in form expects that his team will be able to give the men of Young a hard battle. The two teams are now tied for the leadership of the association, each having lost just one game.

This will be the third branch of sport in which these two teams have clashed this year, with championship prospects. In football Alma took the championship by defeating Kalamazoo on their own field, and in basketball, Alma pulled Kalamazoo down into a triple tie by defeating Kalamazoo at Kalamazoo by one point. If passed events count Alma is going to put Kalamazoo out of another race.

BAD FIRE

Large Barn and Stock Destroyed by Blaze Tuesday Night.

The large barn on the Jake Sandell farm north of Elwell was burned to the ground Tuesday night of last week, together with five horses and seven cows. A considerable quantity of farming material was in the barn at the time that it was burned and was also destroyed in the fire. The loss will probably be about ten thousand dollars. The building was undoubtedly set on fire and the case is under investigation.

APPOINTMENTS MADE BY KING

Carney Health Officer After a Hot Fight and Two Votes By the Council.

MAYOR NEAR TO RESIGNING

In Executive Session Mayor Tendered Resignation if Council Would Not Confirm.

That Mayor Francis King intends to be mayor of Alma and to rule the council with an iron hand in behalf of things he believes needed, was made very evident Monday night at the statutory meeting of the council at which time the mayor's appointments were made and confirmed.

Mayor King's appointments all went through, only one of them bringing forth a fight. This one on the matter of a health officer for the city brought about a fight which threatened to cause the resignation of Mayor King for a time. With a vote of two and two, J. A. Chick withdrew from the race for mayor pro tem, in favor of E. L. Smith, as he felt the latter was more qualified for the place.

Harmony was the reigning note of the meeting until this one particular appointment was made. All of the others were very quickly and quietly confirmed by the council.

When this one came up the council went into an executive session, all visitors at the council being barred during the long discussion which preceded the first vote, and then the second discussion which preceded the second vote. Mayor King offered the name of Dr. Carney for health officer.

Just exactly what took place behind the closed doors is only reported by rumor, naturally, which has been gathered from various sources, but it is certain that on the first ballot J. S. Kneitzer, F. H. Glass and J. C. Chick voted for the mayor's choice, four being against Carney.

Reports say that Mr. King made it plain to the council that this was one of the most important offices in the city, and that if it was not properly filled he did not care to act as mayor. It is rumored that Mayor King even tendered his resignation for immediate acceptance.

This brought on another discussion, this being among those who had voted against the choice of Mayor King. A half hour was consumed and on the next ballot Dr. Carney's appointment was confirmed. The council proceedings show the votes that were taken and how the councilmen voted.

The appointments made by Mayor King, which were confirmed by the council follow:

Mayor pro tem—E. L. Smith.
Chief of police—Oscar Vibber.
City Attorney—John D. Spinney.
Supt. of water works and sewers—H. J. Voller.
Street and weed commissioner—David Hammond.
Health officer—T. J. Carney.
Chief of fire department—J. F. Sartor.
Cemetery board member—L. N. Baker.

This was followed by the passage of the salary ordinance, which increased the salary of the city clerk to \$1,200 per year, increased the salary of the city treasurer to \$550 per year, that of the city attorney to \$500, that of the superintendent of city water works to \$1,200. It created a salary for the street and weed commissioner of \$1,000 per year. The same salaries were made again this year for the mayor, the members of the council and the health officer.

COMMUNICATION

Alma, Mich., May 7, 1918
To the Citizens of Gratiot County:—
The Liberty Loan Board of Gratiot county has the satisfaction of announcing to you that the quota of the Third Liberty Loan assigned to your county by the United States Treasury has been over-subscribed.

The quota asked from us was \$432,490.00. The amount subscribed was \$501,000.00. The number of subscribers, 4,318. Many additional subscriptions were made by employees of corporations operating in this county and reported by these corporations to their home offices, Chicago and Toledo. Were these subscriptions added to our known subscribers, the total would very nearly reach 5,000.

Governor Sleeper has complimented Gratiot County for this fine subscription. He has presented an Honor Flag to the county and asked that we raise this flag with due ceremony at the County Seat. We have earned and received the hearty congratulations (Continued on page seven)

PRIVATE ROAD

Found That City Does Not Own One Improved Street.

It was discovered at the council meeting Tuesday evening that the city of Alma does not own what is known as Marshall street for the past several months, and that it is still private property.

It is very plain that the council in the past has thought, at least, that it should be the property of the city, even though it wasn't and as a result watermains have been laid on a portion of it.

Tuesday night a petition was placed before the council to construct a sidewalk on the south side of this street, and the presence of Supervisor Nick Saad at the meeting brought forth the fact that the city did not own the street. For years it has been, as it is at the present time, the property of Jotham Allen. The portion of this street which is still owned by Mr. Allen consists of a strip of land four rods wide and eighty rods in length.

BEEKEEPERS TO CONVEY IN ALMA

Will Hold Meeting in This City Monday, May 13, to Form An Organization.

On Monday, May 13, there will be a beekeepers' meeting in the directors' room of the First State bank of Alma, Michigan. Two sessions will be held. The forenoon session will begin at 9 o'clock, the afternoon session at 1:30.

All beekeepers, especially ladies, are invited to attend this meeting. If thought best a permanent organization will be formulated at this time.

The main feature of this meeting will be that we have secured the service of Prof. Edwin G. Baldwin of the State University of Florida to lecture on timely topics pertaining to this pursuit. Prof. Baldwin is well known by his writings, having been associate editor of the Beekeepers' Review (now the Domestic Beekeeper) for several years; also as department editor of Gleanings in Bee Culture. Prof. Baldwin has a long experience with bees both in the north and south, so will understand our local conditions very well.

The editor of the Domestic Beekeeper and his two sons own and operate something like a thousand colonies of bees. He and one of his sons expect to be present at this meeting.

While there will be no program, ample opportunity will be offered for discussion of the many timely topics now confronting the honey producer.

TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Gratiot Teachers Will Hold Sessions in St. Louis Saturday.

The 98th semi-annual teachers' association of Gratiot county, will be held at the high school room in St. Louis Saturday morning and afternoon, May 11. A good program has been arranged for the meeting. It follows:

Morning Session
Music—Association.
Benefits of the County Normal—Miss Nina Salisbury.
The Art of Story Telling—Dr. R. Clyde Ford.
Clyde Ford.
Intermission.
Reading of Minutes.
Music—St. Louis Grades.
Agriculture in the Schools—W. A. Wood.

The Inside of German Education—Dr. R. Clyde Ford.

Afternoon Session
Music—Association.
Music—St. Louis high school chorus.
France in the War—Dr. R. Clyde Ford.

Eighth Grade Reading and Its Benefit to the Pupils—R. C. Salsberry.
Discussion.
Election of Officers.
The Teachers' Conquest of the World—Dr. Clyde Ford.

GERMAN GOES

Hun Language Will Be Dropped and French Put in Place.

Acting upon a recommendation by the superintendent of schools, and endorsed by the principal of the high school the board of education of the Alma public schools has voted to discontinue the study of German at the end of the present school year.

It is also announced that the study of French will be substituted for the study of German in the local schools. Hun Kultur has thus received its bit of spanking from the local school authorities, who have no sympathies with German methods of today.

GRATIOT COUNTY OVER HER QUOTA

Five Hundred Thousand Dollar Mark Passed on Liberty Loan Campaign.

\$433,490 WAS ALLOTMENT

Is the First Time That County Has Passed its Quota in Three Loan Drives.

Gratiot county went way over the top on her Third Liberty Loan campaign County Chairman James W. Robinson said Monday, the final figures showing Gratiot with just slightly over \$500,000, this being nearly \$70,000 over the quota.

It was the first successful Liberty Loan in the county, the first two having found Gratiot far short of her quota. The fact that Gratiot went so far over the top on this campaign has caused the campaigners and the various committees of the county to feel highly elated over the work which they have done. It practically makes it certain, that when the fourth loan campaign comes this next fall that the same men will be called to direct the campaign through the county.

Along with Gratiot went Alma, which twice before has filled the city quota. Alma on the Third Liberty Loan had a quota of \$155,000, and it was not until the final stretch that the city passed the mark, a heavy subscription from the Republic near the end of the campaign allowing the city to go over.

Ithaca, St. Louis, Breckenridge, and the other smaller communities of the county all came across handsomely with subscriptions and every city, town and village in Gratiot, large enough to boast a bank, made its quota.

It was certain that Gratiot had reached her quota three or four days before the campaign had ended, but Chairman Robinson was loathe to announce the fact, through a fear that it might slow up subscriptions. He wanted Gratiot county to make a showing, which would entitle it to recognition, after it had fallen down twice, and Gratiot came through in the closing days of the campaign, with such a flood of subscriptions that it could not fail to be commented about, particularly, after the former two campaigns which had fallen short.

The entire State of Michigan went far over its quota, with nearly every county of the lower peninsula aiding in over-subscriptions to the Liberty Loan.

Mr. Robinson and his able corps of assistants, have proven that they know how to get the subscriptions, and deserve to be congratulated by the people of the county for the hard and faithful service which they have rendered in this, Gratiot's first, successful Liberty Loan campaign.

Following is a statement of the campaign results submitted by Chairman Robinson:

To the Editor:—
Below I submit a statement of subscriptions taken by Gratiot county banks for Third Liberty Loan bonds up to the close of business May 8, 1918.

District	No. of	Am't.	Quota
Alma	971	\$174,490	\$155,000
Ashley	262	16,160	14,000
Breckenridge	262	11,250	10,000
Breckenridge	402	20,750	20,000
Elwell	92	11,150	10,000
Elwell	87	8,600	8,000
Madison	255	28,800	20,000
North Star	59	4,300	4,000
Pomona	255	21,000	18,000
Perrinton	139	15,050	11,000
Riverdale	181	15,050	11,000
St. Louis	667	71,450	60,000

(250) \$437,600 \$432,490
Bank of Wheeler reported through First State Bank, Breckenridge.

In addition to the bank subscriptions we have the following:

Sub.	Am't.	
P. M. Employees	131	\$1,650
Michigan Tel. Co.	23	1,550
Western Union Co.	4	250

38 \$1,000

The above subscriptions were reported to the home offices of these companies. If these are added to the total of the bank subscriptions, we have in Gratiot county 4,318 subscribers taking subscriptions to the value of \$501,000. The Alma Arthur Railroad Company has not yet responded to my request for the number of subscriptions taken through its employees and reported to Toledo, Ohio. I have the honor to submit this above.

J. W. Robinson, Chairman.
Ralph L. Gougin, Secretary.

NOTHING TO IT, HE SAYS

In an interview with Carl E. Gallagher, city clerk, this morning, he made the statement to the Alma Record reporter that he did not say before the council last week that the Alma Record had charged twice for a legal notice, but that whoever got the city printing this year must do its own proof-reading. Seemingly the alderman who made the remark to the Record reporter was passing the buck, in view of this statement of the clerk. The alderman called it a joke at first and then decided that he could prove the statement.